(c) whether the officials concerned have been asked to explain the reasons for such irresponsible acts intentional/unintentional and what action have been taken in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Categorization of commercial users**

167. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since categorized some of the telephone subscribers as commercial users;

(b) if so, the name of such categories;

(c) what are the extra levies on them; and

(d) since when these levies are applicable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN) : (a) to (d) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's Telecommunications Tariff (Twentieth Amendment) Order, 2002 issued on 14-03-2002, subscribers have been categorized as commercial and non-commercial subscribers. As per this amendment, the commercial subscribers are to be charged higher rental and permitted lower free calls w.e.f. 01-04-2002, as per Statement enclosed (*See* below). However, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited as operators have not yet categorized any telephone as commercial users nor imposed any extra levies.

***Statement***

*Details of monthly rental and free calls recommended by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India vide 20th Amendment to Telecommunications Tariff (Twentieth Amendment) Order, 2002 issued on 14-03-2002 for commercial subscribers of rural and urban areas.*

**(1) Rural Commercial Subscribers**

(a) Monthly Rentals

| **Exchange system capacity (number of Lines)** | **Rental in Rupees** |
|---|---|
| Upto 999 | 120 |
| 1,000—29999 | 160 |
| 30000—99999 | 220 |
| 1 Lakh and above | 310 |

(b) Number of Free Calls (Monthly) 45

**(2) Urban Commercial Subscribers**

(a) Monthly Rentals

| **Exchange System Capacity (Number of Lines)** | **Rental in Rupees** |
|---|---|
| Upto 29999 | 160 |
| 30000—99999 | 220 |
| 1 Lakh and above | 310 |

(b) Number of Free Calls (Monthly) 30

**Threat posed by China to I.T. industry**

168. SHRI LAJPAT RAI :

SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that China poses a real threat in Information Technology industry; and